



TRIUMVIRATE

The only North American model parliament



The North American Forum on Integration (NAFI) is organizing the third edition of the Triumvirate. This event, co-sponsored by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and American University (AU),
will take place in Washington D.C. from the 20th to the 25th of May 2007.

The Triumvirate will bring together a hundred university students, from Canada, Mexico and the United States, in order to simulate, during five days, a parliamentary meeting between North American national and sub-national parliamentarians. Participants will be assigned one of the three following roles: legislator (representing a country other than their own), journalist or lobbyist. This year's themes are the creation of a customs union, water management, human trafficking and telecommunications in North America.

www.fina-nafi.org

SELECTION CRITERIA

Each participating university can send a delegation of 5 to 10 students. The universities will select the participants in agreement with the basic criteria provided by NAFI. These include:

- 1- being an undergraduate (excluding freshmen) or a graduate student
- 2- having an interest in North American integration
- 3- bilingualism (among English/French/Spanish).



Legislators at work in a political commission

MAIN OBJECTIVES

To raise awareness among future North American leaders regarding regional integration issues.

To allow participants to familiarize themselves with the functioning of democratic institutions.

To help participants better understand NAFTA's political, economic and social realities.

To develop their sense of a North American identity.

To encourage intercultural exchanges and to promote the creation of North American academic networks.

To inform the current decision makers of the priorities and the concerns of North American youth.

Legislators

Triumvirate legislators will have to face the challenge of representing a country other than their own. Given that all the legislative levels are affected by NAFTA, the Triumvirate has incorporated both the federal and federated legislative levels. Basing themselves on their research, regarding the characteristics of the federal or federated entity they represent, participants will have to develop a personal position. Each participant will debate one of the four draft resolutions within their assigned political commission and will vote on all four resolutions during the plenary session.

Daily caucuses per country sessions allow students to discuss possible common strategies. Furthermore the lobby session permits them to build international alliances based on common interests, as well as better understand the opportunities and constraints of cooperating within North American institutions.

Journalists

A team of journalist will produce a daily newsletter during the simulation. The *TrilatHerald* will cover the development and evolution of the debates and will offer interviews with conference speakers, legislators and lobbyists. The newsletter will be distributed each morning to the participants as well as to Triumvirate partners, via Internet.

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Lobbyists

Lobbyists will have to ensure that the amendments to the draft resolutions respect the interests of their organization as well as the mandate they will have received from NAFI. Each lobbyist will have to: present a memoir within one political commission; comment on the commissions' work during caucus meetings; publish, in the *TrilatHerald*, one open letter exposing his or her opinion concerning the debates surrounding draft resolutions and transmit a final report to the Triumvirate secretariat.



Christine Fréchette, Executive Director of NAFI

WORK DOCUMENTS

NAFI secretariat will communicate with the participants via the Internet. In order to help participants prepare for the simulation, NAFI will send them an updated version of the Triumvirate Constitution and Rules of Procedure, a Commissions Guide, a Participant's Handbook and information bulletins. We encourage participants to regularly visit our web site under the Triumvirate 2007 link for updates.

The event will take place in two languages: English and Spanish. Simultaneous interpretation will be available during the plenary session debates; however the political commissions will each take place in one of the two Triumvirate languages.



Official documentation originating from NAFI will be available in three languages (French, English and Spanish), but the documents produced by the participants during the political commissions will be available only in the official language of that commission.

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

The Triumvirate offers its participants the opportunity to meet distinguished North American political leaders. In the two first editions, conference speakers, such as former Canadian Ambassador Raymond Chrétien, Senator Enrique Jackson, President of the Permanent Commission and Amb. Andres Rozental, President of COMEXI, helped participants better understand North American issues.



Senator Enrique Jackson, President of the Mexican Congress' Permanent Commission

SCHEDULE

	Sunday May 20	Monday May 21 IDB	Tuesday May 22 AU	Wednesday May 23 AU	Thursday May 24 IDB	Friday May 25 IDB
9:00 10:00	Arrival of participants	NAFI Information session	Caucus per country	Caucus per country	Caucus per country	Caucus per country
10:00 11:00			4 political commissions	4 political commissions	Plenary session Presentation of the commissions reports	Plenary session Votes on the final resolutions
11:00 1:00		Caucus per country				
1:00 2:30		Lunch Conference	Lunch Conference	Lunch *	Lunch Conference	Lunch Conference
2:30 3:00	Participants registration (from 2:00 to 4:00)	Election of political commission presidents	4 political commissions	4 political commissions	Information session on procedures	Plenary session Current events debate and award ceremony
3:00 3:30					Lobbying	
3:30 4:30	City Tour (from 4:00 to 6:00)	Plenary session				End of the program
4:30 6:00						
6:00 Evening	Welcoming Cocktail	Dinner*	Dinner*	Dinner conference (to be confirmed)	Dinner*	

* Not included in the registration fee

PARTICIPATION

Each participating university can send a delegation of 5 to 10 students. **The registration and payment deadline for universities and participants is February 15, 2007.**

Participation fees

CAD \$4250 per university enrolled by December 15, 2006;
CAD \$4500 per university enrolled after December 15, 2006.
Fee includes hotel, breakfast and lunch for the delegation during the five day event.

290\$CAD per student. Transport fares to and from the host city and dinner are not included. Each participant must have a health and travel insurance.

Registration form

Participating students should fill out a registration form available at www.fina-nafi.org under the "Triumvirate 2007 registration" section. For those students whose universities are not participating but who still wish to take part in the Triumvirate, please contact us at "info@fina-nafi.org".



- A Triumvirate is an alliance of three entities which each exert a power. It refers to a governing body led by three entities, here represented by the three North American countries.
- The number three represents also the three governmental powers: legislature, judiciary and executive.
- The rhombuses point towards one another, referring to the increasing co-operation between the countries through the strengthening of North American dialogue.
- The side by side position refers to the equality between the three countries.
- The quartets of rhombuses which each form a greater rhombus represent the American and Mexican states as well as the Canadian provinces and territories and also the four North American spheres of activities: environmental, economic, political and social.
- The graphic simplicity of the logo reflects the straightforwardness, which all North American institutions must have.

THE NORTH AMERICAN FORUM ON INTEGRATION

The Triumvirate was created and is organized by the North American Forum on Integration (NAFI). NAFI, a non-profit organization, is devoted to developing North American dialogue and networks. Created in 2002, NAFI aims to build awareness on the issues raised by North American integration and the importance of the challenges at hand.



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